

Concepts and Technology For the Soldier

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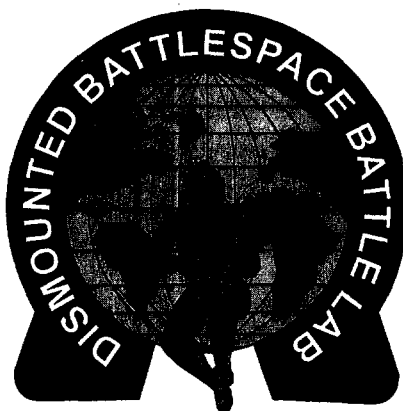
To win on today's battlefield, our forces must be more lethal, mobile, and agile than their adversaries. They must also be better able to survive against current and future threat weapons and munitions, as well as to anticipate and provide sustainment requirements under the most adverse conditions.

In support of these requirements, the Department of Defense has developed a new program, Advanced Concepts and Technology Demonstrations (ACTDs), that will focus advanced technologies and speed the acquisition and fielding of these systems. The U.S. Army Infantry School's Dismounted Battlespace Battle Lab is teamed with the U.S. Army Missile Command to conduct one of the first ACTDs—the Rapid Force Projection Initiative/Enhanced Fiber Optic Guided Missile (RFPI/EFOGM) ACTD. It will develop advanced missile systems for fielding in limited numbers during Fiscal Year 1997.

The objective of this ACTD is to provide a way to explore the ability to expand battlespace at brigade level. This will be accomplished through simulation and Battle Lab warfighting experiments conducted with units of the U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM). This ACTD will provide the ability to conduct essential intelligence and real-time communications to support the precision engagement of threat armored forces and helicopters beyond the line of sight. It will give the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) battle labs and schools a means of exploring issues and refining concepts, doctrine, and requirements. Through the development

of advanced technology fieldable demonstrators, doctrine, training, leader development, and organizational issues can be fully explored as the Army and Marine Corps move into the 21st century.

This advanced equipment will be demonstrated by a selected light, air assault, or airborne unit from FORSCOM. The unit will also retain the equipment for a two-year extended demonstration period in 1999 and 2000. The concept of employment will be



based on the Non-Line of Sight-Combined Arms (NLOS-CA) concept developed by the Dismounted Battlespace Battle Lab. This concept is based on an extensive analysis of technologies and force-on-force simulations. Tactics, techniques, and procedures developed during the NLOS-CA concept evaluation program will serve as the baseline for the demonstration.

The expansion of battlespace to gain an advantage over enemy forces is critical to success in battle. This expansion is achieved through manned and

unmanned target acquisition, effective—and survivable—command and control, and precision direct and indirect fire capabilities.

Expanding the battlespace of combat forces achieves four distinct advantages:

- Enemy forces are destroyed before they can effectively engage friendly forces.
- The vulnerability of a friendly force is reduced through increased dispersion.
- The use of a base of fire at extended ranges increases the ability to maneuver.
- The maneuver commander's flexibility is improved through the unit's ability to conduct operations at a tempo faster than that of the enemy forces.

Expanding battlespace allows simultaneous engagement by the variety of warfighting systems available to the task force commander. These, combined with the effects of deep attacks, force the enemy to fight several threats at the same time. These simultaneous attacks in both the deep and close battles overwhelm the enemy and lead to his decisive defeat.

In operations other than war, the expansion of battlespace allows the commander to complete his mission with greater situational awareness for greater force protection.

The EFOGM can engage high-value targets with precision at extended ranges, allowing the maneuver commander to extend his battlespace and to mass fires while maintaining force dispersion. The system enables the forces to strike enemy targets throughout the

close battle area at the same time and in depth.

Examples of high-value targets engaged by EFOGM include enemy command and control facilities, air defense assets, engineering assets, helicopters, and selected armored vehicles. The commander can plan and execute precision long-range fires while in defilade—to targets in defilade at ranges to 15 kilometers.

EFOGM fires are synchronized with the available reconnaissance and target acquisition assets from national level—such as satellites and Joint STARS—to unit level, as well as direct and indirect fire systems. With this extension of battlespace, a commander can use rapid and precision fires to decisively affect the quantity, quality, and integrity of enemy combined arms force before engaging it with direct fire weapons.

The EFOGM system enables the maneuver commander to influence the tempo of battle through strikes on selected command and control, air defense, and engineer vehicles. The resulting

confusion created by the loss of leaders and combat support assets can slow, or even momentarily stop, enemy units. This allows the maneuver commander to engage targets with other fire support systems, such as artillery, attack helicopters, close air support, and other precision guided munitions. With this precision fire synchronized, the attack has a much greater effect. Enemy forces beyond the range of their own direct fire weapons are much less effective. Enemy forces engaged by direct fire ultimately become disorganized, lose combat power, and pose a lesser threat.

EFOGM further enhances the maneuver commander's actions by striking enemy helicopters forward of the forward line of troops and along the flanks of maneuver forces. This significantly reduces the enemy threat to friendly armored vehicles and increases force protection.

The RFPI/EFOGM ACTD system differs somewhat from the original NLOS-CA program in terms of hardware, funding, program management,

and impact on the Army acquisition process. A global positioning system card has been added to the missile for increased precision. The ACTD will produce a number of demonstrator fire units and missiles for field testing by units, which will provide data needed to support the acquisition of this system. The concept of demonstrators being retained by a FORSCOM unit is also a change in the normal research and development component of the acquisition process.

The Infantry School is leading the way in exploring ways to provide the combined arms force with the ability to overmatch potential threats, now and into the 21st century.

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Getting Promoted

Advice for Officers

COLONEL RICHARD L. STRUBE

There you are, newly commissioned, just settling into your first duty assignment, eager and excited about the future. Things just couldn't be better—until the murmurings begin: The company commander was just passed over for promotion to major; the S-3 was not selected for the Command and General Staff College; the battalion commander didn't make the cut for the Army War College;

and the brigade executive officer was hit by the Selective Early Retirement Board.

Suddenly, your confidence is shaken, and you begin asking yourself what it all means for your own career. Will you make captain? How about major? Lieutenant colonel? What about schooling and command? If all these good leaders are having trouble, what chance do you have? How do you get promoted, or

even selected for schooling?

In this article, I will try to provide some answers that may serve as a useful guide. Over the years, I have seen a number of articles address these same questions, and I've never seen one that contained a magic formula. This one won't guarantee anything either, but it may provide a few ideas that will help you achieve your career goals.